



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sully
5/6/03

In the application of)

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CRAIG L. CARTWRIGHT)

Group Art Unit 1755

Paul D. Marcantoni, Examiner

Serial No. 09/871,765)

Filed June 1, 2001)

For INORGANIC MATRIX)
COMPOSITIONS COMPOSITES)
AND PROCESS OF MAKING)
THE SAME)

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence was deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box RESPONSES - NO FEE, Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 14th day of June, 2002.

Dorothy L. Carper
Dorothy L. Carper, Secretary to George W. Moxen II

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RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated May 15, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction in the present application between the following inventions:

- I) Claims 1-31 and 45-51, drawn to an alkali metal silicate composition, classified in class 106, subclass 600+.
- II) Claims 32-44 and 52, drawn to a method of making an inorganic silicate composite by molding and heating, classified in class 264, subclass 65+.

Applicants elect the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-31 and 45-51, with traverse.

Applicants believe that the claims should be examined together because the invention is in the chemistry of the mixture and the chemical process steps. The Examiner has suggested that the process is a separate invention because of the physical process used to

make the claimed compositions. But, the present invention is not limited by a particular physical process. As the Examiner has noted, a wide variety of physical processes can be used such as pressureless centering, compression molding, etc. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is requested.


Meanwhile, Applicants have elected the claims of Group I and look forward to an early examination and allowance of these claims.

Based upon the foregoing remarks submitted herewith, claims 1-31 and 45-51 are believed to be patentable and entry of a formal Notice of Allowance as to those claims is earnestly solicited.

In the event a fee is required with the filing of this Response and the required fee is not enclosed or is deemed insufficient, the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to withdraw the required funds from Deposit Account No: 501210. If a withdrawal is required from Deposit Account No. 501210, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests that the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks cite Attorney Docket Number GOO.P0002.US for billing purposes.

Should the Examiner deem a telephone call to be beneficial in resolving any remaining matters or to place the claims in better form for allowance, the same would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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